Strategic Growth Council

- Brings together State agencies and departments to coordinate activities that support the development of sustainable communities

- Supports economic development that is environmentally sustainable and socially equitable

- Awarded over $1.04 billion, as of October 2018

Climate Change Research Program— Round 2

- Competitive Grant Program

- $18 million – California Climate Investments

- Supports "research on reducing carbon emissions, including clean energy, adaptation, and resiliency, with an emphasis on California"

- Research Priority Area #5: Low-GHG transformative technology development and deployment

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Program Goals (1 – 4)

1. Invest in research that has a clear and demonstrated connection to the State's climate change goals, including greenhouse gas emission reduction, and climate change adaptation and resilience.

2. Advance research to support low-income and disadvantaged communities and achieve equitable outcomes.

3. Augment, build connections, and fill gaps across current research programs.

4. Outcome-based research linked to practical climate action.

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Program Goals (5 – 7)

5. Model meaningful engagement with the research community, community-based organizations, and other stakeholders at all stages of the program.

6. Continue to advance and develop a common research platform to support climate change planning, policy development, and implementation across all sectors at the state, regional, and community scale.

7. Leverage and complement existing research funding and policy innovations to accelerate climate change research, innovation, and policy and technology deployment.

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Research Innovation Fields

1. Carbon Dioxide Removal

2. Methane Reduction

3. Heating, Cooling, and Thermal Storage

Award Information

- Innovation Center Research Grants:
  - Awarded to established R&D divisions within a Research Institution
  - Develop transformative, scalable clean technologies to support California's 2030 and 2050 climate goals
  - Targeting mid-stage R&D—serve as a bridge between ideas developed in labs and full developed, privately funded technologies

- Up to 5 awards of $3 to 5 million. Award Period=3 years

Eligibility

- Researchers can serve as a Lead Principle Investigator (PI) or co-PI on **up to two proposals.**

- Lead PIs (including qualified scientists, engineers, and educators) must be affiliated with:

  - University of California

  - California State University

  - Federally-funded national laboratories

  - Private, non-profit colleges and universities

  - Private, non-profit research institutions

- Lead Applicants (institutions) can submit **up to two proposals.**

Submission Components

1. Title Page (one page)
2. Proposal Narrative (max. five pages)
3. Research Institution Deployment Profile (one page)
4. Project Summary (max. two pages per project in portfolio)
5. Resume (max. one page per senior partner in proposal's partnership)
6. Letters of Support (up to seven)
7. Submission Questionnaire
8. Budget (template available)
9. Scope of Work

Project Narrative (<5 pages)

- Detail the proposal's plan and approach to conducting R&D that will advance one Research Innovation Field

- Must have the 5 following sections:
    1. Holistic description of proposed project portfolio
    2. Project portfolio's potential for GHG emission reduction and replicability/scalability
    3. Project portfolio's benefits to priority populations
    4. Project management structure, including partnerships, and roles and responsibilities
    5. Important benchmarks, milestones, and metrics to track progress

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Round 2 Program Timeline

November 9, 2018	Proposal submissions due
December 10, 2018	Posting of staff funding recommendations
December 20, 2018	Council votes on proposal awards
January 2019	SGC begins working with researchers to draft grant agreements
June 30, 2022	Closeout

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Solicitation Process

- SGC Administers the Review Process and Grant Agreements
- Electronic submission – GRanTS system (Department of Water Resources)
- Evaluation process
- Recommendation to the Council

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Proposal Evaluation

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Evaluation Components

- Completeness Screening

- Threshold Review

- Technical Review

- Programmatic Review

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Threshold Requirements

- **All proposals must:**
  - Reduce greenhouse gas emissions
  - Be replicable and scalable
  - Provide direct or indirect benefits to low-income or disadvantaged communities, and vulnerable populations
  - Align with the Research Investment Plan's seven goals
  - Have at least one project that can reach TRL 7 by the end of the grant period
  - Have a clear path for commercialization, particularly in priority populations

Technical Review

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Research Merit

- Advances goals of Research Investment Plan and addresses the needs of state, regional, and/or local community constituencies.
- Degree to which proposed technology(ies) demonstrate potential for GHG reduction and replicability and scalability.
- Uses feasible, appropriate, and state-of-the-art methods.
- Employs new approaches and seeks to shift current research or engineering paradigms.
- Degree to which applicant has described potential obstacles and strategies for overcoming them.
- Investigators are qualified to execute proposed activity.

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Meaningful Engagement

- Degree to which the project portfolio provides direct and indirect benefits to priority populations.

- Established strong and meaningful partnerships by engaging with the research community, community-based organizations, and other stakeholders at all stages of the program; and, addresses a need identified by the community of focus.

- Consults new partners on the projects' designs, including processes to disseminate research findings.

- Advance the climate goals of engaged audiences through assistance and resource-sharing.

- Users or potential users of technology have been brought into planning of activity, will be brought into execution of activity, or will be kept apprised of progress and results.

Programmatic Review

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Proposal Management

- **Management**
  - Demonstrates that proposal objectives will be met in a timely manner, with adequate tracking of progress

- **Quality Assurance**
  - Appropriate and adequate Quality Assurance Statement

- **Resources and Cost Controls**
  - Facilities, equipment, and budget are appropriate, and proper procedures ensure timely expenditure of funds

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Past Performance

- Level of success in managing and completing previous agreements

- History of meeting the reporting requirements and metrics in previous R&D programs

Policy Considerations

- Availability of funding
- Balance and distribution of funds:
  - Geographically
  - By type of institutions
  - By type of partners
  - By research innovation fields
  - By project types

- Duplication of other State-funded projects
- Lead applicant's prior award performance
- Partnerships and/or participation of targeted groups
- Adequacy of information provided
- Cost effectiveness

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Frequently Asked Questions

- **Program Documents:** The <u>Research Investment Plan</u> (9/2018) provides the foundation and the overarching policy for the program, and the <u>Round 2 Solicitation</u> directs potential applicants on how to apply for the 2018-19 grant funds.

- **Graduate Student Fees:** Graduate student registration fees are an allowable cost. SGC will work with institutions that intend to pay for graduate fees through the Spring semester/quarter of 2022.

- **Submission Questionnaire:** Applicants must respond to all required questions on the online questionnaire. Failure to do so will result in a submission being deemed as ineligible in the screening process.

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Frequently Asked Questions Cont.

- *Defining Vulnerability for climate adaption:* 2018 Update to the Safeguarding California Plan

  - *"Including, but are not limited to women; racial or ethnic groups; low-income individuals and families; individuals who are incarcerated or have been incarcerated; individuals with disabilities; individuals with mental health conditions; children; youth and young adults; seniors; immigrants and refugees; individuals who are limited English proficient (LEP); and Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, and Questioning (LGBTQQ) communities, or combinations of these populations."*

Questions?

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More Questions?

Email: Research@sgc.ca.gov

Visit the SGC Website for the latest information about this and other programs

http://sgc.ca.gov/

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